

April 2 - 3, 1968

Faith In Senator Dodd

Drew Pearson, one of America's leading poison pen columnists, has been carrying on a vendetta against Senator Thomas Dodd, a Democrat of Connecticut, and has accused him of almost every crime in the book.

The material on which Pearson bases his character assassinations was said to be stolen from the Senator's files by two disgruntled former employees who were fired by the Senator for good and sufficient cause. Apparently his office was entered at night and the papers were removed, copied and replaced.

Anything of this sort, taken out of context, could well give an extremely distorted view—particularly where allegations of diversion of campaign funds, conflicts of interest, juggling of monies among various bank accounts, failing to pay taxes and the like are involved.

Senator Dodd has requested that the Senate Ethics Committee investigate Pearson's charges, and this is currently being carried on. Meanwhile, in the great American tradition, we consider Senator Dodd innocent unless proven guilty and, knowing the Senator, we

find it difficult to believe that he would be a party to any wrong-doing.

Senator Dodd has long been one of the most courageous and upright men in the Senate. He has been a splendid American, fighting Communism at home and abroad. The present accusations should be judged in the light of their source, and especially that effective anti-Communists have often been the target of the left.

A man of Pearson's ilk could twist the Lord's Prayer into an indictment of somebody.

The unfortunate part of any mud-slinging is that some mud inevitably will stick. Pearson knows this. This has been his technique in the past. We hope that the Senator will keep his head erect—as his past record entitles him to do—and that he will continue his efforts for a strong America, while the Ethics Committee is weighing his case.

Senator Dodd is a great American. We think he will be cleared. We have faith in him. We will continue to have faith in him.